



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Knights of Columbus Council # 17304

Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

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Date: Monday, October 12, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Location: St. Martin de Porres Parish Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **7:00 PM** by **Worthy Grand Knight Nathan Bernard**.

2. Opening Prayer

The Council prayed the **Lord's Prayer**.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Council recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the **September 2026 Council meeting** were distributed to members and posted to the Council website.

Motion: Approve the September minutes as posted.

- **Made by:** Ed Flanagan
- **Seconded by:** Jerry Barta
- **Vote:** Motion carried by voice vote.

5. Chaplain's Report

Fr. Steven was absent.

6. Grand Knight's Report – Nathan Bernard

Nathan reviewed the Council's updated **30/60/90 planning sheet**, explaining how it tracks upcoming events as well as progress toward the Council's Star Council goals.

Upcoming activities highlighted included:

- **October 18 Taco Sunday has been cancelled** due to limited brisket inventory and several St. Lawrence Crew members being unavailable.
- **October 24 Bingo Night** will proceed as scheduled.
- The parish **Fall Festival will run November 5–8**, with the Council being asked to provide significant parking assistance, particularly on **Saturday, November 7 and Sunday, November 8**.

Nathan encouraged members to use the 30/60/90 sheet throughout the year to keep track of upcoming Council activities and opportunities to volunteer.

7. Treasurer's Report – Sergio Guerrero

Sergio presented the Council's financial position as of **September 30, 2026**.

- **Chase Checking:** \$9,907.26
- **Chase Savings:** \$1,000.76
- **CDs:** \$12,461.48
- **Total Cash & CDs:** \$23,369.50

CD Allocations

The Council maintains four CDs of **\$3,115.37 each**, with a listed maturity date of **November 19, 2026**.

The funds are allocated toward:

- Crisis & Contingency Fund
- Monument Fund
- Monument Fund
- Monument Fund / Grand Piano Fund

Outstanding Checks

Total Outstanding: \$690.00

- \$300.00 – Fr. David book
- \$300.00 – Fr. David book
- \$90.00 – Chapter dues

Available & Unallocated Funds: \$10,218.02

Sergio also reported that previously approved payments to the parish, school, seminarians, and Michael W. had cleared or were reflected in the Council's current financial activity.

8. Membership & Admissions – Dominic Gervasi

Dominic reported that the Council's annual membership quota is **nine**, with the Council currently at **seven** toward that goal.

Four prospective members remain in the Council's prospect pipeline. Dominic is continuing follow-up but noted that older prospects who have not responded after repeated attempts will be removed from the active list.

Transfer – Joe Czechowski

Joe Czechowski, a Fourth Degree Knight who recently moved to the area from Kansas, attended the meeting and requested to transfer into Council #17304.

Joe briefly introduced himself and discussed his military and aviation background. He recently moved to the area to be closer to family, including his son in Frisco.

Motion: Approve Joe Czechowski's transfer into Council #17304.

- **Made by:** Ed Flanagan
- **Seconded by:** Ron Echavarria
- **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Dominic will work with Joe to complete the transfer process.

9. Program & Committee Reports

Program Director – Mario Martinez

Mario reviewed upcoming Council programs and activities.

Faith – Ron Echavarria

Upcoming Faith activities include:

October 14–28 – Marian Consecration for Men

Deacon Jack will lead the Marian Consecration. One additional man is needed to assist with table discussions, communication, and organization.

October 15 – Knights of Columbus Holy Hour

Members were encouraged to spend time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and participate in the Council's Holy Hour and Rosary for Intentions.

October 19 – 54-Day Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

The novena will consist of one Rosary each day for 54 days, with the first half focused on prayer intentions and the latter half focused on thanksgiving.

A traditional nine-day novena will also be available for those unable to participate in the entire 54-day devotion.

The Council will assist other parish ministries with a dinner and celebration surrounding the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**.

OCIA Sponsors Needed

The parish currently has approximately **70 OCIA candidates** and is seeking sponsors.

Sponsors must be Catholics in good standing who have received Confirmation and should expect to commit approximately one hour each Sunday while accompanying their candidate through the process.

Community – Michael Echavarria

The Council's **Wheelchair Mission Sunday** is scheduled for **January 24, 2027**.

Additional information and volunteer needs will be provided as the event approaches.

Family

No additional report.

Life – Paul Parkes

The Council's next major Life program is scheduled for **January 22, 2027**, in conjunction with the annual pro-life observances and activities.

St. Lawrence Crew – Ray Mangold

The October Taco Sunday has been cancelled due to low brisket inventory and several key volunteers being unavailable.

The Crew is looking for brisket when it can be purchased for approximately **\$3.50 per pound or less**.

Ray thanked **Randy Maldonado** for preparing the evening's meal and noted that additional volunteers are needed to help cook meals for future Council meetings.

The Council Christmas Party is scheduled for **December 12 at the Elks Lodge**. The anticipated menu will include traditional holiday items such as turkey, ham, dressing, and sides.

Planning for the upcoming **Fish Fry season** will begin in November, with promotional efforts beginning in January.

Technology / AV

No report.

Bingo

With Russ Woodford absent, Nathan provided the Bingo update.

The next Bingo Night will be held **October 24**.

Volunteers will be needed beginning at approximately **5:00 PM** for setup. The event itself is expected to run approximately **7:00–10:00 PM**, with additional help needed afterward for cleanup and teardown.

George reported that he has begun working with area homeowners associations to increase awareness of parish and Council events.

The first HOA communication effort will provide additional promotion for both **Bingo and the Fall Festival**, helping the Council reach residents beyond the parish community.

Fourth Degree – Mario Martinez

Mario provided the Fourth Degree update.

Members of the Fourth Degree will participate in a **Rosary fallout on October 15 for Roger Scott**, who recently passed away, followed by funeral support on Friday.

Additional Fourth Degree exemplifications are upcoming, including a **Spanish-language exemplification in Dallas on October 24.**

10. Insurance / Financial Advisor Report – Don Burks, CFP®

Don was absent from the meeting following the recent death of his father.

Nathan thanked Council members for their prayers and for those who attended the funeral and supported Don and his family during their time of loss.

11. District Deputy Report – Dominic Gervasi

Dominic reported that his required annual **District Deputy reports** for his assigned councils have been completed and submitted.

He reminded the Council that **Michael Echavarria**, as Community Director, needs to complete the Knights of Columbus **Safe Environment training** associated with his position.

Dominic emphasized that the Knights' Safe Environment requirements are separate from the Diocese's Safe Environment program.

Wheelchair Mission

Dominic reported that **Dean "Doc" Hansen** is currently in Vietnam participating in another wheelchair mission.

Doc previously participated in a wheelchair mission in Mexico and elected to travel to Vietnam for approximately two weeks to continue assisting with wheelchair distribution.

Dominic thanked Doc for representing the Council through this service and encouraged members to consider participating in future wheelchair missions.

Double Star Council Award

Dominic formally presented Council #17304 with its **Double Star Council Award for the 2025–2026 Fraternal Year.**

He congratulated the entire Council and specifically thanked **Grand Knight Nathan Bernard** for his leadership.

Nathan thanked the members and emphasized that the recognition represents the work and participation of the entire Council.

12. Unfinished Business

None.

13. New Business

Financial Secretary Report

The Council remains in **good standing with Supreme**, with no current balance due.

Approximately **40 members still have unpaid Council dues**. Follow-up will continue with those members. Membership cards are also available for members who have paid their dues but have not yet received their current card.

Bills Presented

The following bills were presented:

- **Randy Maldonado – Council meeting meal: \$114.28**
- **HOA advertising: \$50.00**

Total Bills Presented: \$164.28

Motion: Approve payment of the bills as presented.

- **Made by:** Ron Echavarria
- **Seconded by:** Mario Martinez
- **Vote:** Motion carried.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Dinner Support

The Council was asked to assist with the **December 11 Our Lady of Guadalupe procession and dinner**. Two cases of frozen fish remain from the previous Fish Fry season. The proposal was made to use the existing fish to prepare **fish tacos** for the December 11 dinner.

Motion: Authorize use of the Council's remaining frozen fish to support the December 11 Our Lady of Guadalupe dinner.

- **Made by:** Ron Echavarria
- **Seconded by:** Mario Martinez
- **Vote:** Motion carried.

14. Good of the Order

Knight of the Month – October

Tim Cox

Family of the Month – October

Jerry and Joyce Barta

15. Lecturer's Reflection – Jerry Barta

Jerry discussed a recently published book by **Fr. David Ampofo**, *Behold, These Are Worthy Catholic Knights*.

Jerry noted that several members of Council #17304 are acknowledged in the book and recommended it as worthwhile reading for Knights who want to better understand the history, purpose, and calling of the Knights of Columbus.

He emphasized that the book provides a useful reflection on **why men become Knights and what it means to live out the principles of the Order**.

Jerry encouraged members to pick up a copy and read it.

Book: *Behold, These Are Worthy Catholic Knights* by Rev. Fr. David Ampofo

[Amazon – Behold, These Are Worthy Catholic Knights](#)

16. Grand Knight's Summary

Nathan closed with another request for volunteers for two upcoming events:

October 24 – Bingo Night

Members are needed for setup, event support, and cleanup.

November 5–8 – St. Martin de Porres Fall Festival

The Fall Festival will be significantly larger than in previous years and will include rides and attractions throughout the four-day event.

Attendance is projected at approximately **5,000 people**.

The largest need for the Knights will be **parking support on Saturday, November 7 and Sunday, November 8**.

Normal weekend Masses will continue during the festival, creating periods of particularly heavy vehicle traffic.

Members were encouraged to volunteer for one or more shifts. Nathan emphasized that the event is both an opportunity to support the parish and an opportunity for fraternity while serving alongside fellow Knights.

17. Prayer Requests

The Council offered prayers for:

- **Don Burks and his family** – following the death of his father; prayers for the family and for the repose of his father's soul.
 - **Bill Quaglia's son** – prayers for a successful surgery and recovery.
 - **David Ribb** – continued recovery following a recent heart attack.
 - **Paul Soros** – Mark's father-in-law, following a second stroke.
 - **Sarah Allen** – Brandon Story requested prayers for his cousin and family following Sarah's unexpected death, and for the repose of her soul.
 - **Michael W.** – prayers for the success and safety of his mission work in Cambodia and Sri Lanka.
 - All Council members and family members currently sick or in distress.
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18. Closing Prayer

The Council prayed the **Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney**, led by **Nathan Bernard**.

The prayer included special intentions for Michael's mission work, those included on the Council prayer list, the Order, and Council #17304.

19. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at **7:45 PM**.

Minutes prepared by:

SK Nick Cumberland, Recorder